

Matress, &c. still on the same footing between this court and Spain; that is to say, There is much treating and much courting, but no mortal can tell, except those in the secret, what Mrs. Keene has concluded, or is likely to conclude, with the Spanish Ministry.

Some foreign papers, in their articles of news from London, pretend that a convention has been made between this court and that of France, relating to the island of Tobago; and talk as if a man of war had been sent from England to inspect the state of that island, besides other circumstances which are not better grounded; for no such convention exists, and as to the state of the said island, it may be exactly known without sending a man of war thither. — But after all, nobody pretends to let the day, when Tabago will be certainly evacuated by the French.

Brussels, August 25. Prince Charles of Lorraine returned hither the 22d from Antwerp, extremely pleased, not only with the reception he had met with; but likewise with the good condition in which he found all the forts and fortifications he had been to visit.

Paris, August 27. Yesterday his excellency the earl of Albemarle went to Versailles, and had his first audience of the dauphin and dauphiness. This court has received advice, that Cape Breton had been delivered to the commodore appointed by his most Christian majesty to receive the same.

Vienna, August 16. The locusts have advanced to Schwechat, within two leagues of this capital, where our consternation is so great, that public prayers are appointed to deprecate this destructive arrow of the wrath of the Almighty. Last Monday a fire broke out at Trofing, on the confines of Moravia and Hungary, which reduced the whole borough, with the churches, to ashes.

From the Port A la main, August 29. Yesterday we received the news by the king's frigate, call'd the Anemomy, commanded by the chevalier de Tourville, that the English had evacuated the royal isle of Cape Breton, and all it's dependencies, and that our troops entered thereupon the 23d of last month, and had taken possession of it; and that, in consequence thereof, his majesty had order'd the marquis de Puyseux to declare to the earl of Albemarle, that the earl of Suffolk and lord Cathcart were at liberty.

L O N D O N.

August 24. We are assured, that a bill will be brought in next session of parliament, to take off all custom, &c. inward or outward, on salt used for curing fish in the Scotch fisheries, on fish cured for either home or foreign markets, as also on naval stores and materials for the fisheries, for the term of seven years.

And we hear also, that some representations have been made to this court from Holland, relating to the bounds of our new fishery.

Upon a moderate calculation made of the number of persons who will be employed at the commencement of the Scotch fisheries, we are assured the following may be depended on; viz.

Mariner in the fishing vessels, 500 small vessels being proposed to be employed, at 16 men each vessel, one with another, being of different burthens	8000
Masters employed in the vessels for exporting the fish to different markets; and exporting salt,	20000
Persons of all ages, and both sexes, employ'd on shore in the various occupations of the fishery,	50000
Total of persons to be employed in the said fisheries in it's different branches, natives and foreigners;	78000
It is proposed after the first year, to double the number of fishing vessels, which must necessarily increase the number of persons to be employed in proportion to the augmentation.	

The above account will not be thought too great, when we consider the standing state of the Dutch fisheries, which we have here inserted.

For some years past, the accounts of the Dutch have stood as follows; viz.

One thousand small vessels, fourteen men in each, employed in their fisheries,	14000
Employed in exporting fish and salt, upwards of	40000
Persons of all ages, and both sexes, employed on shore in the various occupations of the fishery,	100000
Total of the persons employed; according to the Dutch account,	154000

It is natural to think, that if the Dutch, who are

branch of commerce of it; we, who can dry and cure just upon the spot, and shall be thereby enabled to get to the different foreign markets with our commodity three weeks sooner than they possibly can, shall not make it less beneficial and even our regard than they, was it only for the employment of a great number of people, which cannot fail of being of great service to the kingdom in general.

We have an account from Bedford, that last Friday morning a young man, a farmer, about two miles from that place, who has been for some time disorder'd in his mind, set fire to his own house, which entirely consumed the same, with all the out-houses, barns, ricks of corn, &c. and the fire being very violent, communicated itself to two other considerable farm-houses, and burnt the same to the ground, with barns, &c. and the crops of the present year, which had been but just got in; and likewise eight small tenements. This unhappy young man had the same morning attempted to shoot his mother, when failing in his horrid design, he took horse and went a little way, but presently return'd, and committed the above precipitate and dreadful act; which he had no sooner done, than he rode away: But on returning to be a spectator of the flames himself had caused, he was secured by the country people, who took him before a neighbouring magistrate, by whom he was committed to Bedford goal.

August 15. A short account of the trial and execution of John Hartley, and John South, who were shot in Hyde-Park yesterday for desertion.

John Hartley, born in Yorkshire, and paymaster serjeant in the second company of the second regiment of guards, deserted from his corps in Holland just before the last embarkation of the troops from England; and carried off the money lodged in his hands for the subsistence of the company a month; from thence, it was said by South, he enter'd into Fitz James's regiment of horse, in the French service, but not liking their service he deserted and went to Ireland, enlisted himself as a private sentinel in colonel Framp on's regiment, where he continued some time; but having asked some things which were likely to bring him to a trial in that regiment, he, in order to avoid present punishment (and as it seems thro' misapprehension) discovered himself to be a deserter from the British guards; on which he was immediately sent to England, and confined in the Savoy till his trial, at which every thing appearing plain against him, and he having no defence to make, he was condemn'd; tho' as it was not made known to the prisoner at the time of his trial, he could not be brought to believe it till Thursday last, when the dead warrant came down.

John South, born at Ware in Hertfordshire, was a drummer in the second company of the first regiment of guards, then capt. Russell's; between four and five years ago; when the company lay in Brussels; a particular order was made against drunkenness, it then very much prevailing, (which made this order necessary) and this unhappy person having drunk to excess and neglected some small degree of duty, and fearing punishment for the same, prevented it for the present by deserting to the French; and enlisting in Fitz James's regiment of horse; he was greatly care'd, and made an officer, in which he continued till the battle of Fontenoy, when he said his heart relented in fighting against his countrymen: He deserted from the French also, and after wandering up and down some time in different parts, at length entered on board the Gloucester man of war, where he continued upwards of three years, and for wages and prize money due from the said ship, received a considerable sum of money, which he idly squandered away in riotous living, tho' he had labour'd for it: One of his chief associates, and who had been his schoolfellow, as well as partner in squandering his money away, being acquainted with the deceased's affair, took him into a public house under pretence of treating him, and there had him secured as a deserter. After his trial, tho' his crime was not heinous as the serjeant's, he did not depend so much upon a pardon as the other did.

Since their condemnation, South's sisters, who live in the Strand, with the intended spouse of Hartley, and four other maidens dress'd in white, with great humility waited on his majesty and others of the royal family with a petition in behalf of the deceased, which petition was received with great affability from the afflicted maidens.

On Sunday they were at the Savoy church and heard a sermon on the solemn occasion, after which preparation was made for administering the sacrament to them both, but only Hartley would receive it, South seeming to lean to the Romish church, though he had all along profess'd himself a protestant, and